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GAME DAY PARTY FOODS

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454 g/1 lb

8⁹⁹



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11⁹⁹
save \$1⁹⁹



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Vandalism spotted in Crystal Beach

Graffiti on stop signs
costs taxpayers

4



Learning to read

Literacy council looking
for volunteers

14

Junior B All-Stars hit the
ice. See page 24.

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No one can fill her shoes



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Meteors' biggest fan and long time volunteer Carol Sims died on Jan. 14. Sims volunteered for the Meteors for more than 25 years and collected more than 50 years of Meteors history. From left, Sims' sister, Kathy Slat, and niece, Cheryl Slat, look at the junior B team's memorabilia. For story see page 4.

Town to host public forum on new school

Council seeks
input on
funding a
library and
theatre

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

The District School Board of Niagara has asked the Town of Fort Erie to kick in \$3.7 million to fund an arts theatre and a shared library in a high school slated to open in September 2017.

An open house to gather public input was held on Jan. 20 in the Town Hall's atrium. But before councillors make a decision to commit the funds, they want to hear more input from the public.

Members of the community are invited to speak about the project during the Feb. 9 council meeting which begins at 6 p.m. at town hall.

See Page 3



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The Fort Erie Meteors' biggest fan will be missed

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

No one dared to say anything bad to Carol Sims about her boys.

"If you said anything bad about the Meteors to her, you better be ready for a fight," Fort Erie Meteors operations manager Tony Passero said.

Sims volunteered for the Fort Erie Meteors for more than 25 years and was considered to be the junior B team's biggest fan.

According to Passero, Sims was "the best volunteer that any team, or organization could have."

Sims attended every game she could whether it was at the Fort Erie Leisureplex or in another town or city.

"She was a fixture in every arena," Passero said. "You would see the little fireball in the corner. Whether she was having a popcorn or having a coffee, Carol was always there watching the game."

Sims died on Jan. 14 of cancer. She was 56.

Sims began volunteering for the Meteors when she took her niece Cheryl Slat and her nephew Sean Slat to a game.

After watching one game, Cheryl Slat said her aunt loved the action on the ice and "the rest was history." Sims began volunteering for the junior B team, selling programs and 50/50 tickets every Saturday night. She also attended every fundraising event and every awards banquet to take photographs.

"I don't know how she managed to keep track of it all but she sent all these boys birthday cards over the years. She even sent cards to guys that played five years ago or more."

Sims also spent countless



CAROL SIMS (centre) volunteered for the Fort Erie Meteors junior B team for more than 25 years. She sold raffle tickets, game tickets and programs. Sims also attended games whether it was at the Fort Erie Leisureplex or away and she photographed every banquet, fundraiser and awards ceremony for the Meteors.

"She got to know their parents and even their girlfriends."

Sims always remembered each player on his birthday and would send out well wishes.

"I don't know how she managed to keep track of it all but she sent all these boys birthday cards over the years. She even sent cards to guys that played five years ago or more."

Sims also spent countless

hours searching for news clippings about every hockey game. When she clipped out an article Sims would make a photocopy for each team member and deliver it to them every Saturday night. By the end of the year, each player would have a scrapbook that recorded every triumph and every loss for the Fort Erie team.

"Tony (Passero) had also asked her to collect every article she could find from

the last 50 years for the team's 50th anniversary," Slat said.

"She did it and spent many hours at the Fort Erie Public Library. I can't even count the hours Aunt Carol spent searching through microfilm. But she did it. She'd do anything for her boys."

After Sims collected all of the news clippings, she lovingly bound decades of the Junior B team's history in

three orange booklets for safe keeping. She also included stats, photographs and programs from awards banquets and other Meteors events.

Slat is following in her aunt's footsteps and will continue to volunteer for the Fort Erie Meteors on Saturday nights at the Fort Erie Leisureplex.

"I will never replace her but I will pick up where Aunt Carol left off. But nobody

will ever come close to replacing her. The guys (the Meteors) are taking it pretty hard."

"Whether you knew her for three days or 30 years, Carol was a friend to everyone and she would do anything for you," Sims' sister Kathy Slat said.

"She will be missed, especially by the Meteors. She means so much to them and they meant so much to her," sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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Council must decide whether or not to give funds by mid-February

From Page 1

The DSNB has asked the Town for \$3 million to pay for the theatre and an additional \$650,000 to build a shared library.

According to a report issued by town staff, the money to pay for both projects could either come from fundraising efforts, borrowing the sum required to pay for the projects or increasing property taxes.

If council decides to increase taxes to pay for the projects, it could mean an 18% hike spread out over 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Ward 4 Coun. Butler asked council to consider hosting an open forum because she feels it's important to give residents a chance to share their thoughts on the project.

"I think this is a great idea," Butler said about supporting the construction of an arts theatre and library.

"But there are people who stand on both sides of the fence and they need an opportunity to voice their opinions."

Butler also asked that the Town extend an invitation to the DSNB to send a representative from the school board to give a presentation about the project.

Councillors debated about when the public forum should be held. With the exception of Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts, councillors agreed Feb. 9 would give them the appropriate amount of time to make a final decision.

Lubberts said he felt "uncomfortable" hosting the forum on Feb. 9 because it would mean councillors would need to make a decision immediately following the public forum to in order to meet the DSNB's deadline.

Mayor Wynne

Redekop said councillors have until Feb. 15 to make a decision about whether or not to support both projects.

Redekop said he felt it was necessary to give the public enough notice to attend the forum.

"We know what is being proposed and what has been asked of us," he said. It would make sense to give residents a chance to speak, he added.

"Let's hope that in the spirit of co-operation the DSNB wouldn't mind a two-day smudging of the extension that would give us a week (following the open forum) to make a final decision."

He said he also wanted to make the public aware that there are other alternatives to fund both projects that would alleviate the burden on taxpayers.

"There is fundraising, grants and other alternative sources of revenue that the public is not aware of," Redekop said.

If council decides to provide the funding, the DSNB requires the money by 2017.

Greater Fort Erie Secondary School will be built at 1640 Garrison Rd., right across from Town Hall.

The DSNB approved the purchase of about 15 acres of land from the Fort Erie Golf Club for \$1.6 million.

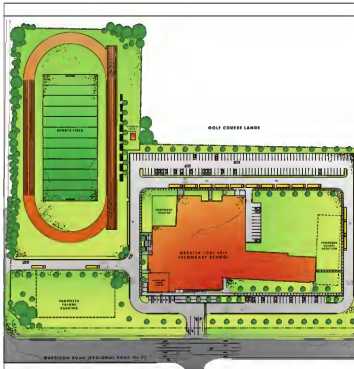
Last summer, the Ministry of Education announced a \$25 million funding grant in support of the new school build.

sarah.fergusson@sunmedia.ca

BRETT SWEENEY

Special to TheTimes

Greater Fort Erie Secondary School, Fort Erie's new high school set to open in September 2017, will be built on Garrison Road across from Fort Erie Town Hall.



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Graffiti problems cause headaches for Town

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Town of Fort Erie staff are asking residents to report acts of vandalism in the Crystal Beach area to the police.

"We've had some issues on a fair number of stop signs (in Crystal Beach) that have been painted red. We go out there and clean it off and they (vandals) do it again," the town's interim chief administrative officer, Tom Kuchyt said.

More than 12 stop signs in Crystal Beach have been painted red over the course of the last few weeks, which has created a safety hazard as graffiti reduces the visibility of the signs.

"After they (vandals) do it a couple times, it (the sign) has to be replaced because it no longer reflects properly, making it difficult for drivers to see," Kuchyt said.

"We try to get graffiti cleaned off right away. It's easier if you address it



Special to The Times

A Town of Fort Erie stop sign was vandalized at the corner of Rebstock Rd. and Elmwood Ave. in Crystal Beach. Town staff are asking the public's assistance in reporting acts of vandalism to the Niagara Regional Police

right away because the vandals get discouraged because the graffiti doesn't stay on very long."

According to Kuchyt, taxpayers' dollars are being wasted on replacement signs.

"The cost for a sign replacement is \$100 each and that pays for the material and the labour. We have more than 12 signs to date that we've had to replace."

Kuchyt said the washrooms at Waverly Beach have also been covered with graffiti.

"What we have done is ask the police to monitor areas more often than they typically would. We are asking the police to

help us in this situation."

Kuchyt wants the public to know that areas prone to vandalism are "being watched."

If an individual is caught committing an act of vandalism, he or she can be charged with mischief, Niagara Regional Police Const. Phil Gavin said.

"There is no set fine, but a person could be responsible for the cost of replacing what had been vandalized or they must complete community service," Gavin said.

"A judge would look at the situation and decide."

Graffiti is an issue that exists across Niagara that goes in ebbs and flows."

"At times, Niagara is hit

with more amounts of it and then it fades but there is definitely a presence (in Niagara)," Gavin said.

Gavin encourages the public to alert the police to areas where vandalism has taken place.

"Absolutely, (it helps when people report vandalism) because it helps identify areas where there is a problem," Gavin said.

"We want to know about it so we can direct our resources and provide people with the safety and the comfort that they expect to have in their community."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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No nominations open for byelection

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie residents in Ward 2 will be headed to the polls on Monday, March 30.

Council was left to fill a vacant seat following the death of Ward 2 Coun. Rick Shular who died on Dec. 29 after a brief illness.

Council approved a bylaw on Monday night with a 6-1 vote in favour of holding a byelection which allowed the Town of Fort Erie to begin accepting nominations this week.

Before the byelection received formal approval from council, Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts asked his fellow councillors to "seriously reconsider" holding a byelection to fill Shular's seat.

Town staff advised against holding a byelection to fill the seat because it would cost the Town about \$42,109.

Town staff presented councillors with three alternatives to fill the vacant seat.

The first option was to appoint runner-up John Mollicone, who received 508 votes in the October municipal election. He was the only opponent for Shular, who won the election with 1,241 votes.

The second option was to appoint a person from interested and eligible applicants.

Council could also select an individual nominated by a member of council.

"I've been receiving numerous comments from residents and they are not happy," Lubberts said.

Mollicone, who signed up to run in Ward 2 on Tuesday morning, said he was concerned about the impact the byelection would have on the Town's budget.

"Should there be other vacancies on this term of council, I am concerned this byelection might be setting a precedent," Mollicone said.

"People have expressed their concern to me about the cost. I would have preferred that council appointed someone to the position—even if it wasn't me." Despite the cost, Mollicone said the byelection will allow Ward 2 residents to have a say in who their representative is.

"Absolutely, I want people to have a choice," Mollicone said.

Larry Graber, who was a long time friend to Shular, also registered as a candidate Tuesday morning.

"He (Shular) had asked me to run and it was my decision to do so in the end," Graber said.

Graber said he has experience that would be beneficial to the town. He is currently president of the Fort Erie Kinsmen and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 71. He has also served with the United Way in the 1990s and is a member of the Property Standards Committee with the town.

"I think I have a lot of insight into all of Fort Erie. I've always worked for the betterment of the community."

Although she has received some negative feedback about the byelection, Ward 4 Coun. Marina Butler said "the majority of comments have been positive."

"There is no other recourse except to allow Ward 2 residents to choose their councillor."

Mayor Wayne Redekop said the Town will seek cost savings because council requested town staff to shorten the original time line for the byelection by a few weeks.

"That \$42,000 was based on a much longer election," he said.

Town staff will also use paper ballots instead of automated vote tabulating machines to save money.

Nominations will be accepted by the Town until Feb. 13.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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opinion page

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Let council know what you think about future high school projects

The District School Board of Niagara is asking the Town of Fort Erie to pay \$3.7 million to fund an arts theatre and shared library for the town's future high school.

The theatre will cost the Town about \$3 million and the library will cost \$650,000.

If council decides to support both projects, the Town of Fort Erie will have to ensure it has the funds to be paid in 2017.

There are a few ways the Town can find the funds to pay for it.

The options available to the Town for supporting the project include fundraising, applying for grants, borrowing the money and raising property taxes.

If councillors decide to raise taxes to pay for both the theatre and library, it could mean a potential 18% tax hike spread out over the

course of the next three years.

It's a big decision that council will make.

And there isn't much time for the councillors to make it. They must notify the school board by mid-February whether or not they will support the projects.

Council will hold an open forum discussion during its council meeting on Feb. 9 at its meeting which begins at 6 p.m. for residents to come and speak their mind.

It will be a chance for councillors to hear what residents really think.

Whether individuals support the project or not, it is important for residents to attend the meeting and tell council how they really feel.

Whatever decision council makes, it will impact everyone in Fort Erie for years to come.



Do You Remember?

Last week's photo of Sir John A. Macdonald and others was taken at a birthday party held in his honour in Jan. 1974.

The event was held by the ladies of the Niagara District Progressive Conservative Association.

Our thanks to Al Stouffer, as well as Kelly Craig and her mother Carolyn (Hebhourn) Candella for identifying Harry

Hebhourn (left) who was president of the Fort Erie PC Association and a former Fort Erie Councillor.

Carolyn is Harry Hebhourn's daughter and Kelly, his granddaughter. The lady and the man in the uniform are still unknown, but David Owen wrote us to suggest that the latter quite possibly may have been a member of the Argyll and Sutherland

Highlanders of Canada, from Hamilton.

This week's photo has the name Robin Schinkel and the date 1976 written on the back.

Can anyone tell us which one is Robin or the names of the other women in the photo? Please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us at museum@forterie.on.ca.

letters to the editor

'Give us seniors a break'

Dear Editor,

Here are some reasons

why I can't support the District School Board of Niagara's vision for a new high school at the proposed site on Garrison Road and Sunset Drive.

You paid too much money, about \$1.6 million for the land to build it on.

Why the Garrison Road? Land is much cheaper behind the town hall. It hampers me as to why a new school would be

built on a four-lane highway intersecting with Sunset Drive, which has its own share of traffic coming and going from Gilmore Road. Not all students will be bussed in.

What happens to Pride Field, now known as Gary Skerrett Field, once that high school is sold? Lots of donated help went into that project years ago.

A pledge of \$3.7 million for our town to donate might double the size of the centre and library on site. It will raise our taxes for a while, according to the proponents of the project.

Has anyone ever seen taxes go down once they go up? In all my years, I have never seen taxes go down once they are in place.

Nothing gets built these days without cost overruns and delays. Will this project be an exception?

Leave us taxpayers alone. We have plenty to contemplate these days with rising power bills, natural gas, sewer and water bills to increase soon. Many seniors are on fixed incomes and can't afford more hikes. Some people like

the idea of the arts centre and library being incorporated into the school. Please find some corporation with deep pockets to fund it and give us seniors a break. I am sure the project has gone too far now to hit the reverse button. Or has it?

Paul Kassay
Crystal Beach

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opinion page

Bill MacPhee to share his journey to recovery from mental illness

Michael Keaton and the rest of the cast of *Birdman* have been busy attending awards ceremonies recently.

Nominated for nine Oscars, the winner of two Golden Globes and a Screen Actors Guild award, this is the story of a washed up actor who played an iconic superhero, battling his ego and attempting to recover his family, his career and himself in the days leading up to the opening of a Broadway play.

You can find out what all the buzz is about tonight at 8:30 p.m. when *Birdman* is screened at the Centennial branch of the Fort Erie Public Library.

There will be an encore showing on Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 2 p.m. at the Crystal Ridge branch.

For children, Saturday's



Amy Roebuck
Fort Erie Public Library

family film matinee, *Dolphin Tale 2* takes up the story of Winter, the dolphin with a prosthetic tail, and other human friends Sawyer Nelson and Dr. Clay Haskett, played by Nathan Gamble and Harry Connick Jr. *Dolphin Tale 2* will be playing at the Crystal Ridge branch, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Family Literacy Day is a

national initiative created in Canada in 1999 and held annually in late January to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development.

Just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's literacy skills dramatically.

The Parenting and Family Literacy Centre is teaming up with the library to provide just this type of activity in a special Family Time series at the Centennial branch of the library.

Join us for free, interactive and fun story adventures, including songs and rhymes, plus activities and playtime for all ages, from babies on up.

There is no need to register

ahead for these sessions, which will be offered on Feb. 10 and 24, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Centennial branch of the library.

Drop-in participants are welcome. On alternate weeks, the library's Stories for 2s and 3s will be offering more early literacy skills and enrichment.

Stories for 2s and 3s are offered on Wednesdays at the Crystal Ridge branch, alternate Tuesdays at the Centennial branch, and on Mondays, Feb. 9 and 23 at the Stevensville branch.

Bill MacPhee has an important story to tell. MacPhee will be at the Centennial branch of the library on Wednesday, Feb. 11 to speak on his journey of hope and recovery with schizophrenia, and his efforts to remove the stigma of mental illness, so that more people affected will seek help. After

many years of experience with illness and treatment,

MacPhee's definition of recovery is not simply to be 'okay on meds' or 'I can hold down a part-time job' but instead 'when you wouldn't want to be anybody else but who you are today'.

The author of "To Cry a Dry Tear," MacPhee is also the founding editor of *SZ Magazine*, formerly *Schizophrenia Digest*, which is published in the Niagara Region with over 3000 regular subscribers.

Free sample copies of *SZ Magazine* will be available at the program, and copies of MacPhee's book *To Cry a Dry Tear* and his DVDs *Life After Mental Illness* and *Living with Schizophrenia* will all be available for sale and signing. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. and there is no charge for

admission. Besides *To Cry a Dry Tear*, many print resources on the topic of schizophrenia are available in the library collection.

You may place a hold on *Coping with schizophrenia: a guide for patients, families and caregivers* by Steven Jones, Kim Mueser's "The Complete Family Guide to Schizophrenia: helping your family member get the most out of life," or Daniel Dornan's *Dante's Cure: a journey out of madness*.

There are also online authoritative databases such as Psychology Collection and Consumer Health Complete available through the library website, www.fepi.ca, under Downloads/Research.

Amy Roebuck is the Community Services Coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

Earl Plato: 'What tremendously large animals are moose'

Old friend, Charlie Davies, gave me an unique CD late last year.

It was about the Mighty Moose by Tim Timmerman, nature researcher.

What a CD. There were six parts on the North American moose. The first section had forty some pages just on moose antlers. The second article is about them.

I have seen several moose over the years. Wife, Elaine, and I saw 14 of them in Newfoundland a few years ago.

Grandsons Luke and Jesse O'Brien were too recent.

They saw few moose during the day but saw eight at night.

Beware. We have seen them many times in Algonquin Park



Earl Plato
When Nature Calls

day and night time.

Driving back to our lodging from a slide show on Algonquin wolves by the park rangers, it was about 10 p.m. when it happened. As we headed east a big cow moose and a young calf suddenly appeared in front of us. A close call.

What tremendously large

animals are moose. My first really close sighting of a bull moose was many years ago.

I was helping the late Bill Osborne install natural gas lines at a Nuskoka Church camp. We had worked hard on Friday and all day on Saturday to complete the job. Early Sunday morning Bill suggested a canoe ride on the little lake.

We started our paddling when Bill said, "Look ahead!" There was a huge bull moose swimming in front of us heading to the shore to our right. We stopped paddling and watched in awe as it emerged from the lake.

What a rack.

I will never forget the sight. It was a giant animal with an enormous rack. It stood and looked at us for a short time

then turned majestically and disappeared into the woods. No camera with us. What a shame.

This time I had my camera. Two of my daughters, Elizabeth and Diane and I went to moose country Norway to visit relatives.

We spent some time with our cousins in Asker just outside the capital, Oslo. Our cousins told us about the local moose. Earlier that year a mother moose and her young wandered through their back yard.

Cousin Erik told a sad story. When you graduate from high school Norwegian parents throw big parties and give luxurious gifts. We stood on his front lawn and he pointed down the hill. One of his fellow graduates, a young girl,

from a wealthy family was given a sports car. He said that she drove it around Asker at fast speeds. Erik pointed down to the road that had a tight turn. The convertible top was down as she sped along as a big bull moose with a big rack crossed the road directly in front of the girl. Death. The moose's front legs were broken and its huge rack impaled the poor girl.

My cousin, Erling, warned us of the moose in Norway. Next day we three Canadians headed north to Trondheim, near my grandmother Anderson's (Andersen) birth place. This was a 200 mile plus through moose country. Every ten metres or so a road sign told us to "Beware of Moose!"

Alert both going up and



Bull moose in yard.

back not one moose sighted! Amazing but fortunate for us and driver Diane.

However, in Trondheim, the beautiful Norwegian ancient capital, we saw a life sized bronze statue of a bull moose.

Part Two -The Antler Story by Timmerman
Earl Plato is a resident of Fort Erie, local historian and nature lover.

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Youth puts fire safety education to the test

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

When 11-year-old Riley Wren saw smoke billowing from his grandfather's kitchen, he immediately knew what to do.

"I walked in the door, and I saw the smoke. My grandma opened the oven door and I saw the flames," Riley said.

Riley's grandfather had been watching the roast that had been cooking in the oven but he had stepped away from the kitchen for a minute.

As Riley learned, a minute is all it takes for a fire to start.

"For a second, I was worried. I felt like freaking out and then I remembered I knew how to handle this situation. The Junior Firefighter Academy taught me what to do."

Riley grabbed the fire extinguisher, pulled its pin and aimed it inside the oven to extinguish the flames.

The Grade 7 St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School student learned how to use a fire extinguisher at the Junior Firefighter Academy he attended. Public safety officer Doug Atkins said the academy is a five-day summer camp that began in 2013 to provide children ages 10 to 12 an opportunity to learn about fire safety and prevention. It is organized by the Fort Erie Fire Department's public education program.

"It's a week long program held in August," Atkins said.

A few participants from the previous year are invited back to act "as mentors for the youth," Atkins said.

"We're hoping that in the future, we will be getting some volunteer firefighters from this group."

The program teaches a new appreciation for emergency services in Niagara and Fort Erie.



SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

Riley Wren used his fire safety and prevention skills when he extinguished an oven fire over the holidays.

There's camaraderie and parents really appreciate the discipline the program teaches," Atkins added.

While attending the summer camp, Riley said he learned about first aid and CPR, boat safety, proper use of a fire extinguisher and how to handle fire hoses.

"We learned everything you need to know if you're going to be a firefighter," he said.

Riley "never imagined" he would have to put out a fire in his grandfather's kitchen just a few days before Christmas.

But he's glad he had the knowledge.

"Yes, I am happy that I learned all I did (at the Junior Firefighter Academy) because I can save a lot of peoples' houses. I can save lives," Riley said. "I was still really panicked when it happened but I got the job done."

Riley wants to follow in his father's footsteps and become a member of the Fort Erie Fire Department when he is old enough to sign up.

"Yes, I want to be just like my dad (Rick Wren)," Riley said.

Kitchen fires are the most common types of fires that occur inside a home and they are preventable. Riley said he would like to remind people not to walk away from their food when it's cooking on the stove.

"Most importantly, people should learn how to use a fire extinguisher," he said.

sarah.ferguson@searmedia.ca

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Niagara Icewine Festival showcases the best of Niagara

MIKE KRKLJUS

Special to QMI Agency Niagara
Ontario Icewine is one of Canada's most cherished products and nowhere is that better enjoyed than here in Niagara. This past weekend the 20th Niagara Icewine Festival wrapped its largest festival spanning over 3 weekends with events across the Niagara Region.

For guests, the Festival offered plenty of events for every taste, from elegant gala evenings featuring freestill wine and food pairings. There were also many outdoor activities from exploring Ice Street Villages to marshmallow roasting

along Niagara's famous wine route.

New this year to the festival line-up, was a three-day event in Niagara Falls held at the Scotiabank Convention Centre. The event featured 17 wineries and 10 different restaurants showcasing their best products. Event organizer Anthony Annunziata said events like this are "a real game changer" for Niagara Falls because they bring thousands of visitors to the region at time of year when tourism operators are not as busy.

To stay tuned to coming Niagara Wine Festival events visit www.niagarawinefestival.com.



Staff at Fielding Estate Winery prepare for the Discovery Pass Weekend.

LET'S GROW TOGETHER

A look back at the week in Niagara



Enjoying a moment at Tawse Winery during the Niagara Icewine Festival.



Getting ready to sample Vieni Estates Icewine.



Mouthwatering meals are prepared and served by casino culinary staff.



Guests sample exquisite dishes inspired by the flavours of the east.



Niagara wine and savoury cheeses are enjoyed by all.



The Xerox Icewine Gala celebrates 20 years with fantastic ice sculptures.



Friends raise a glass to great wine and a great evening.

NIAGARA
ICEWINE
festival

Photo Credit: Chimpanzee, Niagara Wine Festival, Winestains.

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WHAT'S GROWING IN NIAGARA

DISCO BALL 2015

Date: Saturday January 31, Club Roma, St. Catharines

Description: Head back in time for a great night at Club Roma in support of the Niagara Region Sexual Assault Centre (NRSAC). Boogie the night away with your best disco wear, as you enjoy a mixer & cocktail reception, delectable hot & cold food stations, open bar and door prizes live entertainment by The Chordies & Terry Tunes.

For more tickets and more information please visit www.sexualassaultniagara.org or call (905) 682-7298

BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE!

Date: various dates

Description: Bowl for Kids Sake isn't about being a good bowler. It's about having a good time and raising money for a good cause. All the money raised at these events across Niagara supports traditional Big Brothers Big Sisters programming along with in-school mentoring. This annual event is the largest and most important fundraising campaign for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

For more information: St. Catharines & Thorold (905) 648-3250, Niagara Falls (905) 307-9494, South Niagara (905) 738-0575

WOMEN & WELLNESS

Date: Thursday February 19, Club Italia, Niagara Falls

Description: The 18th annual educational fundraising event is hosted by the Niagara Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association. Roma Maynard, former Editor-in-Chief of Chateleine describes her victory over chronic depression. Funds raised support CMHA Niagara Walk in Counselling Service.

To register please visit womenandwellness.eventinbts.ca

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Fort Erie woman warns others to lock their vehicles to prevent theft

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

A Fort Erie woman wants to warn others to lock their cars so they don't become victims of theft.

About two weeks ago, 77-year-old Patricia grabbed a handful of items from her parked car and carried them into her daughter's Catherine Street home.

Patricia, who asked that her name not be used due to concerns for her safety, didn't think much about leaving her unlocked car unattended for a few minutes.

"It was just a little after lunchtime in broad daylight when it happened," Patricia said. "I went into the house with my arms full and I came back for my purse. But it had been stolen in a matter of minutes."

Patricia immediately reported the theft to the police, applied for a new driver's license and changed her banking information.

"It was a headache to say the least. My purse contained a lot of valuable information," Patricia said.

When Patricia heard through word of mouth that another car was broken into in the Crescent Park area recently she wanted to remind residents to make sure they lock their car doors to prevent and dissuade crime.

"I didn't want to come forward but I felt it was impor-

tant," Patricia said. "I feel that my privacy was invaded, and it's devastating when something like this happens."

There have been about 45 reports of thefts from vehicles in Fort Erie since Sept. 1, according to Niagara Regional Police Const. Phil Gavin.

"This happens sporadically in pockets and clusters. It happens in all neighbourhoods in Fort Erie and the region," Gavin said about the number of people who reported to police that their vehicles had been broken into.

"We gather information on these events to identify suspects. We put out dedicated crime patrol who target street level crimes such as these," he added.

Gavin said members of the public must remember to lock their vehicles and never leave valuable items in plain sight because an unlocked vehicle is "an easy target for thieves."

To report a theft to the Niagara Regional Police call 905-888-4111.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

A Fort Erie woman, 77-year-old Patricia, is urging residents to lock their vehicles so they don't become victims of theft.



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Leaded or Unleaded?

As part of our commitment to ensuring our community has safe drinking water, our Community Lead Sampling Program will run again from January 15, 2015 through April 15, 2015.

Potential sources of lead can include lead service piping, older cast iron water mains with lead joints, lead based solder in copper plumbing, or some brass fixture components in household plumbing.

Lead pipe service connections have been used to deliver water to homes from the distribution pipes since the late 1800s. Older homes (generally those built before the mid-1950s) are more likely to have lead connections. Homes constructed prior to the mid to late 1980s may have their plumbing connected with lead base solder. When left sitting for a prolonged period (i.e. over six hours) lead can dissolve into drinking water from household piping made with these materials. In 1990, the amount of lead in solder that could be used in drinking water plumbing was substantially reduced. Drinking water distributed by the Town of Fort Erie is extremely low in lead. The Town of Fort Erie completes thousands of water sample tests every year to ensure you continue to receive water that meets or exceeds the provincial drinking water quality standards.



So let's get the LEAD out!

Sign up today.

Call us at 905-871-1600 Extension 2465 to book an appointment and have your plumbing tested for the presence of lead. It only takes 45 minutes for our Licensed Operator to complete and you will get a copy of the sample results.

Public Notice

Appointments to Boards and Committees

The Town is accepting applications from residents, business owners/operators or taxpayers interested in serving on the committees listed below where vacancies exist.

An Information Sheet about the boards and committees mandate and composition are available on the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca by clicking on "Town Hall" and "C" for Committees.

Appointments are for a four (4) year term commencing February 1st, 2015 and committee members act voluntarily. Meetings are usually once per month.

Accessibility Advisory Committee – One (1) Vacancy.

Communities-in-Bloom Committee – Two (2) Vacancies.

Crystal Beach Beautification Committee – Vacancies (Composition at will of Committee).

Fort Erie Cemetery Advisory Committee – Three (3) Vacancies.

Fort Erie Environmental Advisory Committee – Two (2) Vacancies.

Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee – Thirteen (13) Vacancies.

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee – Four (4) Vacancies.

Application forms are available on the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca and at Town Hall. The deadline for the Interim Clerk to receive applications is **Friday, February 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED INCREASE IN BUILDING PERMIT FEES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 7 of the Ontario Building Code Act and Division C, Section 1.3.1.2 of Ontario Regulation 332/12 of the said Act that the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie intends to consider a by-law at its meeting of **March 9, 2015** to increase the current building permit fees.

Builders and members of the public are invited to appear before Council at the Public Meeting to be held on **Monday March 2, 6:00 p.m. at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario**. Written submissions will also be accepted by the Interim Clerk up until 3:00 p.m. **Wednesday February 25, 2015**.

The proposal is to increase Building Permit Fees effective **March 10, 2015**. The objective of these increases is for the Building Department to operate closer to cost recovery from permit fee revenue. The costs of administering and enforcing the Building Code Act is available on the Town's website.

For information regarding Building Permit Fees, please contact Keegan Gennings, Chief Building Official at: (905) 871-1600 Ext. 2515 or kgennings@town.forterie.on.ca.

Any person interested in appearing before Council as a delegation at its meeting of **March 2, 2015** to address the proposed increase in building permit fees may register with the Interim Clerk by 3:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, February 25, 2015** by calling 905-871-1600 ext 2236 or 2212.

Dated at Fort Erie, January 29th 2015.

Tom Mather,

Interim Clerk

Town of Fort Erie

tmather@town.forterie.on.ca

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

2015 MUNICIPAL BY-ELECTION

NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR, WARD TWO

Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended

NOTICE is hereby given to the municipal electors of the Town of Fort Erie that commencing January 27, 2015 nominations may be made for **Councillor Ward 2 (1 to be elected)** by filing the prescribed nomination papers and nomination fee at **Town Hall**.

A nomination form and a declaration of qualification signed by the candidate must be filed with the Clerk in person or by an agent from January 27, 2015 to February 12, 2015, Monday to Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or on **Nomination Day, February 13, 2015, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.** The prescribed nomination filing fee of \$100 must accompany the nomination form. The fee is payable in cash, by debit card, certified cheque or money order made payable to the Town of Fort Erie. The nomination form must be certified by the Clerk before anyone becomes a certified candidate for the office. A candidate must have registered by filing the nomination form and fee before expending any funds on a campaign or accepting any contributions.

All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that candidates and electors with disabilities are able to receive information and election documents in a format that takes into account their disability. The format may be agreed upon between the requester and the Interim Clerk.

Please direct all enquiries to the Interim Clerk/Returning Officer. Further information and forms are available on the Town's website at www.town.forterie.on.ca

DATED AT FORT ERIE this 27th day of January, 2015.

Tom Mather, CMM II,
Interim Clerk/Returning Officer
Town of Fort Erie
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Fort Erie Literacy Council looking for volunteers

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Volunteering for the Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie is "one of the most rewarding" experiences Denise LaPrairie has ever had.

"You just feel that you are doing something good," she said.

As a literacy volunteer, LaPrairie works one-on-one with a learner for about an hour and a half each week.

"We do a lot of different things, it just depends on the needs of the learner," LaPrairie said. "Sometimes I teach people how to fill out forms. In order to get things like a driver's license, you need to be able to read."

Tutors are available for learners who are learning to speak English, those who are in community college and need upgrading, others who need help completing their GEDs, individuals who are recovering from strokes or brain injuries and individuals who have a learning disability.

Literacy program coordinator Lesley Rickard said volun-

teers are required to take a 13-hour tutor training workshop before they can be paired with a learner. Most learners remain with a tutor for about two years, but it varies depending on the needs of a learner.

The literacy council will be holding free training workshops at the Fort Erie Public Library on Feb. 21 and Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Feb. 24 and March 5 from 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Volunteers

Who: The Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie

What: The organization needs volunteer tutors to assist adult non-readers, ESL learners, people with learning disabilities or people recovering from strokes and brain injuries.

When: Four free training workshops will be held on Feb. 21 and Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Feb. 24 and March 5 from 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Volunteers must register by Feb. 12.

Where: The Fort Erie Public Library

For more information about becoming a volunteer call 905-671-9621 or e-mail info@literacycouncilforterie.ca.



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

According to Denise LaPrairie, volunteering for the Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie is one of the most rewarding experiences she has ever had. The non-profit organization is looking for more volunteers to provide people who are no longer in the school system with assistance in basic reading and writing.

must register for the workshops by Feb. 12.

Experience isn't necessary but volunteers must be 19 years or older, have a love of

reading and must have a desire to help and believe in the importance of literacy.

"When people can't read, they are missing out on a lot," Rickard said. "To me, there is nothing like getting lost in a good book."

Rickard said the literacy council provides volunteers with all materials necessary to assist their learners.

"It's not a huge commitment but what you get out of it

(volunteering) is worthwhile," she added.

LaPrairie encourages individuals who have a passion for reading to contact the literacy council to learn more about volunteering.

"It really is rewarding to see the improvement that your learner makes and eventually you begin to build a rapport with some of these people who help and they become very good friends."

The Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie was founded in 1978 to provide people who are no longer in the school system with assistance in basic reading, writing and math.

For more information about volunteering for the literacy council call 905-671-9621 or e-mail info@literacycouncilforterie.ca.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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2015 FIESTA SE SEDAN

STOCK #
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Market Value // \$19,848
Additional Brock Savings // \$1,145

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STOCK #
142061

Market Value // \$23,798
Delivery Allowance // \$1,000
Additional Brock Savings // \$1,450
WARM-UP BONUS \$500**

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OR + HST AND LIC.
**CASH ONLY ----- \$22,487 TAX INCL. + LIC.

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all weather mats



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up to
84 months

2015 FUSION S FWD

STOCK #
159224

Market Value // \$25,083
Delivery Allowance // \$500
Additional Brock Savings // \$994
WARM-UP BONUS \$500**

BROCK SALE PRICE \$23,157*

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2015 ESCAPE S FWD

STOCK #
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Market Value // \$26,663
Additional Brock Savings // \$930
WARM-UP BONUS \$500**

BROCK SALE PRICE \$25,261*

OR + HST AND LIC.
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\$226 + HST AND LIC. Bi-Weekly

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2014 EDGE FWD-SEL

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141295

Market Value // \$39,033
Delivery Allowance // \$2,500
Additional Brock Savings // \$1,099
WARM-UP BONUS \$500**

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Serving up food that's good for the soul



SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

From left, Rebecca Parton, Mayor Wayne Redekop and Ward 4 Coun. Marina Butler teamed up with culinary students from Fort Erie Secondary School to cook for the Food For the Soul program Saturday morning at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Fort Erie. On the fourth Saturday of every month, St. Paul's hosts the luncheon to provide individuals and families with a nutritious meal from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. St. Andrew's-Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Michael Roman Catholic Church, Victory Christian Centre International at the Salvation Army and Trinity Lutheran Church also host the community luncheon program once a month on alternate Saturdays. The volunteers of the Food For the Soul program are challenging members of the community to support the program. For more information about Food for the Soul call St. Paul's Anglican Church at 905-871-6704.

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Happy Valentine's Day

Bridgewater

COUNTRY CLUB

Enjoy a beautiful evening with your Loved One
Comfortable surrounding and fantastic view



Valentine's Day Menu 2015

PREPARED BY CHEF WAYNE PURPURA

1st Course- choose one of the following

French Onion Soup

Caramelized onions in a hearty beef broth with a herbed crouton & topped with Swiss cheese

Caesar Salad

Crisp romaine leaves tossed in our Caesar dressing with pancetta bacon & parmesan cheese

Mixed Green Salad

Baby Mixed Greens in our house vinaigrette with red peppers, onion, goat's cheese, crispy tortilla

2nd Course- choose any 3 items to share

Stuffed Mushrooms

Bacon Wrapped Scallops

4 cheese dip served with herbed crostini's for dipping

Coconut Shrimp - served with a tangy Thai dip and pineapple salsa

Fried Brie - Brie Cheese coated with panko and fried, served with a raspberry coulis

Philly Cheese Steak Wonton - deep fried wontons stuffed with cheese, steak, onions and peppers served with a Creole dipping sauce

3rd Course

Raspberry Sorbet

4th Course - Main Entrees

Served with seasonal vegetables & choice of Rice Pilaf, Garlic Mashed Potato or Baked Potato

Filet Mignon \$49.99

6oz Filet grilled to your liking served with a Pinot Noir reduction jus Add Sea Lobster Tail \$13.99

Twin Lobster Tails \$49.99

Two Sea Lobster Tails served with drawn butter

Box Parmesan Crusted Chicken Supreme \$39.99

Crusted with panko & parmesan cheese, baked golden brown served with a sour cream mushroom cream sauce

Veal Chop \$42.99

10 oz Veal Chop grilled to your liking accompanied with a brandy Madagascar peppercorn sauce

Lamb Chop \$49.99

New Zealand lamb chop grilled to your liking accompanied with a grainy mustard & Basting jus

Seafood Pasta \$42.99

Shrimp, Scallops & Lobster served on top a bed of fettuccini tossed in a chardonnay cream sauce

5th Course

Valentine's Day Trio - Prepared by Pastry Chef Morgan Shute

Chocolate Bailey's Mousse

Red Velvet Cake

Chocolate Dipped Strawberry

Dinners will be served from 4:30 till 9:00 P.M.

Reservations Only. Seating is Limited

Call 905-871-2400 ext 28 or 45

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Police seek suspect in Fort Erie robbery

Niagara Regional Police are looking for a man they believe to have robbed two convenience stores in Fort Erie Sunday night.

Staff Sergeant Steve Tchang said a lone male walked into an Avondale at 3231 Snyder Rd. at 9:55 p.m. and stole a "quantity of cigarettes" on Jan. 25.

"We believe the same male entered the Avondale at 145 Gilmore Rd. at 10:30 p.m. and he stole the cash register."

The suspect attempted but failed to open the cash register to take the money.

"He became impatient and took the cash register before he fled," Tchang said.

Police describe the suspect as a white male under the age of 30. He is 6 feet tall and weighs between 180 to 200 pounds. The suspect was wearing a dark winter coat, a tuque and dark camouflage pants.

Anyone with information about both incidents is asked to call the Niagara Regional Police at 905-688-4111 ext. 2300.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

NOTICE

Attention all Seniors 55+,
Boomers and Zoomers of Greater Fort Erie

Gourmet Italian Dinner Italo Canadian Hall

1101 Dipietro Street, Fort Erie
February 22 at 5:00 pm

Pizza Bread, Rolls, Garden Salad, Pasta
with Meatballs, Herb Roasted Chicken,
Oven Roast Potatoes & Vegetables,

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Catered by Maria's Catering

\$12.00 Fort Erie residents;

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No ticket sales after February 15th

For tickets contact:

Fort Erie 905-871-7761, 871-3715,
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Next event Toronto All Star Big Band
April 11th.... Watch for details.

Best of the best represent their junior B hockey teams at all-star game

Cathy McCabe
Special to The Times

Team White defeated Team Black in the high-scoring Golden Horseshoe Conference all-star game at the Fort Erie Leisureplex on Monday night.

Team White, which consisted of players from the Caledonia Corvairs, St. Catharines Falcons, Fort Erie Meteors and Pelham Panthers, won 8-5.

Team Black consisted of players from the Wolland Junior Canadians, Ancaster Avalanche, Niagara Falls Canucks and Thorold Blackhawks.

Paul Quaranta, Ontario Hockey Association Convenor, said all eight teams were involved in organizing the game and recruiting volunteers.

"I took the lead as our conference convenor, Richard Vander-Haeghe, who is also secretary, is also integral in getting this event started."

He added, "All the raffle prizes, all the stuff that we have tonight, the auction items, not any one person could do this without the support of our volunteers from all our teams."

Fort Erie Meteors' volun-

teer Cheryl Slat dropped the first puck at the all-star game in honour of her aunt Carol Sims who passed away from cancer on Jan. 14.

Team White player Tyler Morrison scored the first goal at 13:04 in first period. Then teammate Connor Patton increased their lead.

In the second period, Mac Hollowell scored for Team Black.

Jared Marino scored two goals and teammates Tyler Jackson and Riley O'Connell each scored one for Team White.

Team White's Shawn Rooke and Morrison both scored in the third period.

Team Black gained four goals, scored by Matt Cuglietta, Anthony Postiglione, Nigel Slade and Blake Luscombe, but it was not enough to take the lead.

After the game, awards were given out. Mitchell Mendonca won player of the game for Team Black and Riley O'Connell won for Team White. Team Black's Blake Richard won goalie of the game and teammate Lucas Triemstra received his award for winning the shootout during the first intermission.

Quaranta said Harrow sports provided the awards

and was a big sponsor for the all-star game.

Retired NHL player Matthew Barnaby was supposed to be present to give out the awards, but he was detained due to inclement weather.

Regardless of the separation of the Golden Horseshoe conference from the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League, Quaranta said the successful organization of this event shows the unity within the conference.

"It shows that we can work together as eight hockey clubs for one common goal, which is a benefit to our players."

Quaranta said "We have to thank the Fort Erie Meteors for being able to provide the venue for us. It was on short notice that we had to turn this game around, but Fort Erie was able to secure ice for us. We were able to put some people in the stands."

He said the league's goal is development, adding that these games are important for players to be recognized for the work they have done all season.

"We want to try and encourage scouts to get out here from universities and schools to come and see



CATHY MCCABE Special to The Times

Team White lines up at the beginning of the Golden Horseshoe Conference all-star game at the Leisureplex on Monday night.

these kids play. We do have some here this evening from the OHL and one school."

He said that the production company Arc Pro High-Def, filmed the event and the footage will be put on YouTube so that the players can send it to scouts who were unable to attend the game.

Joe Fazio, assistant coach of the Fort Erie Meteors, said the players deserved to have an all-star game. "These kids could move on because of this. It's what it's all about, moving the kids up."

Fort Erie Meteors Head Coach Rob Hubbard said, "It's great to be able to be part of this, coaching other guys in the league. It's a great commodity to hang out with these guys and have fun. That's what it is all about. We had a lot of fun tonight."

"All five guys that represented us all deserved to be here. Wade Kenny deserved to be here, but he was injured."

"Marino got a couple of goals, Holden Garland (earned two assists). I thought it was fantastic. I thought they represented us really well and that's all we wanted."



Who will be selected for Fort Erie Time's 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Awards?

We're extremely proud of the contributions volunteers make to our community. We all know many of these often unsung heroes who add so much to the quality of life in Greater Fort Erie - let's put their names forward for official recognition by The Fort Erie Times and its Readers and the Citizens of Greater Fort Erie in a special section in the Fort Erie Times. Simply complete the nomination form, submitting the volunteer's name in one of the following categories:

1. Work with Seniors
2. Work with Youth
3. Historical Contribution
4. Cultural (Arts, Music, etc.)
5. Protecting the Environment

6. Education
7. Sports and Recreation
8. Working with those "in need"
9. Service Clubs

10. Working with those with Special Needs
11. Volunteers under 21
12. Community Events
13. Working with Animals

In addition to the 13 categories listed, if you wish to submit a new category for recognition please submit the category and we will give it consideration to be added to the list. All names submitted must include a letter of supporting information stating why your nominee should win. Nominations will be gathered by the Fort Erie Times to be forwarded to the selection committee. One volunteer in each category will be selected to be honoured by the Fort Erie Times at a special ceremony and will be profiled in the Fort Erie Times.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

I wish to nominate:

Name: _____
Category #: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____
Submitted by: (and phone #) _____

1. Complete the nomination form along with a brief note outlining the nominee's contribution by FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2015.
2. MAIL, EMAIL OR DROP OFF your nominations to The Fort Erie Times, 336 Central Ave, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 3T6 or email myra_robertson@sunmedia.ca
3. Selected volunteers must agree to appear in a special feature story or another nominee will be selected.
4. Nominations are limited to people who live in the Town of Greater Fort Erie Area.

Presented by The

Fort Erie Times

Nomination Deadline
Friday March 13, 2015



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Chocolate historically more than just food

Many cannot resist chocolate, that beloved creamy, sweet confection derived from cocoa beans, milk and sugar. All over the world people love to indulge in chocolate, especially come Valentine's Day. According to data from Leatherhead Food Research, Switzerland consumes more chocolate per capita than any country in the world, followed by the United Kingdom, Austria and Belgium round out the top five.

Despite its apparent popularity in Europe, chocolate was first popularized among the Aztecs of Mexico, who used the cocoa beans more than 3,000 years ago. However, it wasn't until the last 200 years that chocolate turned into the sweet treat that is known and loved today.

Aztec believed cocoa had aphrodisiac properties, and chocolate contains a chemical called phenylethylamine, which is released naturally in the body when a person falls in love. The aroma of chocolate can induce relaxation, and chocolate also contains dopamine, a natural painkiller.

While chocolate is now used primarily as a food, over the years it has had many other uses — some of which are quite unique. Here are some of the many ways people have used chocolate throughout history.

- **Money:** The Mayans once used cocoa beans as a form of currency, as did the Aztecs. In this instance, money actually did grow on trees.
- **Dental health:** Armen Zedegepoos, a researcher at Tulane University, says an extract of cocoa powder could be an effective alternative to using fluoride. Chocolate-enhanced toothpastes may be the next big thing.
- **Fuel:** Chocolate has been used to feed bacteria that produce hydrogen, which can be used as a clean power source.
- **Medicine:** Chocolate is full of antioxidants, which serve as fighters of disease-fighting benefits in the body. Dark chocolate provides the greatest number of health benefits, as it contains flavonols, which stimulate the brain and support the circulatory system.
- **Fashion:** Designers and chocolatiers worldwide collaborate to make sweet outfits at Le Salon du Chocolat's fashion shows.
- **Special effects:** Before the days of computer-generated special effects, movie makers had to employ other methods to produce realistic results. Legend has it that Bosco brand chocolate syrup was used as blood in the famed shower scene in the classic horror movie "Psycho." Bosco was used because it showed up great in black and white.
- **Skin care:** Cocoa butter, a component of chocolate, has long been used to moisturize and soothe dry skin. Many agree on incorporating organic chocolate into their healing and beauty therapies.
- **Perfume:** Chocolate produces more than 400 distinct smells and has been used to make perfume more fragrant.
- **Mood enhancement:** Chocolate may help to improve mood, as is a mild stimulant and can affect serotonin levels, which govern how feel-good feelings, in the brain.
- **Postage:** In 1913, Belgium's post office used limited-edition stamps that were varnished with 40 percent of a cocoa product. The stamps smelled and tasted like chocolate.

Chocolate has been sampling taste buds for thousands of years. It's also been used in some very unique ways, even if, come Valentine's Day, the majority of people would be content just to eat it.



Chocolate is delicious in so many ways, but it has served many other purposes over the years, too.

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Your Home Improvement LEAD QUARTERS

Add value to your home with these renovations

Homeowners choose renovation projects for a variety of reasons. Although many improvements are made to increase functionality and comfort of a home, several others are seen as worthwhile investments. These investments can add up to a higher resale value when the time comes to sell a home. Homeowners choose renovation projects for a variety of reasons. Although many improvements are made to increase functionality and comfort of a home, several others are seen as worthwhile investments. These investments can add up to a higher resale value when the time comes to sell a home.

Certain projects have a history of providing a greater return on homeowners' investments than others. The following renovation tips can add beauty to your home and generate great returns when you put the home up for sale.

- **Invest in your kitchen.** Kitchen remodels are a safe bet when it comes to putting money into improving a home. Residents tend to spend a great deal of time in the kitchen, but a dated, poorly functioning kitchen can detract from the value of a home, even if the rest of the home is in good shape. It's possible to recoup between 60 and 120 percent of your kitchen remodel investment, especially if the kitchen matches up well with the rest of your home. Homeowners should know that a deluxe renovation may not be necessary, as relatively moderate improvements can create a whole new look for a kitchen.
- **Look to paint.** One of the least expensive improvement materials, but one that has a significant impact, is paint. Neutral, modern colors can easily liven up any space. If you paint with low-VOC paint, you also can advertise an eco-friendly home, which is very desirable these days.
- **Put in another bathroom.** Multiple bathrooms are an attractive selling point, particularly in older homes that may not have been equipped with more than one bathroom. Finding extra space for a bathroom can be tricky, but consider closets, areas under stairs or even taking some space away from another room. Popular home-improvement television channel HGTV advises that half-bathrooms require at least 18 square feet of space, while full baths need 30 to 35 square feet for a stand-up shower or bathtub.
- **Renovate the HVAC system.** Aesthetic improvements aren't the only ones that add value to a home. Many home buyers are eager to purchase a home that has a new heating and cooling system, as buyers understand that furnaces and air conditioning units are substantial investments that can last for years. Other improvements, such as adding attic insulation or replacing older windows and doors with more energy efficient options, also are smart bets.
- **Add illumination to rooms.** A dark home is a dreary home. Adding light can mean including more overhead and accent lighting. Under-cabinet task lighting is a nice touch. Inclusion of skylights and sun tubes can bring natural light into rooms that may not have south- or west-facing windows.
- **Add beautiful outdoors.** Outdoor living spaces have become more desirable, especially as the "staycation" has grown in popularity. Decks and patios can make backyards more appealing. The scope of your investment will depend on the size of the deck and design. Doing the work yourself can cut the cost of decks in half, but only if you have the specific tools or experience to tackle such a project.



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Bouquet for our newspaper carrier
A bouquet for our carrier for delivering our newspaper in this nasty, cold weather.

Brick for a pet owner who forgot to stoop and scoop
A brick for the man I saw on Ridge Road near the corner of Farr Ave. that was walking his little white dog. You stopped and watched your dog poop, but you didn't stoop and scoop. You were 50 feet away from a school and you left your dog's poop right there for someone to step in. Shame on you. We have laws in place against this behaviour. If you want to walk your dog, clean up after it.

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A brick for all the impatient morning and evening commuters who drive on Gorham Road, Stevensville Road and Sodom Road to gain access to the QEW. Would you please this is a coward.

stop tailgating other drivers in severe weather conditions and passing cars and busses. Please be patient, otherwise leave earlier. We all want to arrive home safe and sound too!

Brick for driver that struck and killed a dog

A brick for the person that ran over and killed my neighbour's dog. This happened on the morning of Jan. 20 on Brunswick Ave. You didn't even attempt to stop. How do you look yourself in the mirror knowing what you have done?

Bouquet for a grandpa and grandma

A bouquet for my grandpa for his feeble attempts at learning how to use the computer. We will get your Nascar schedule printed one way or another. And a thank you to my grandma for scrump-diddle-umptious ravioli. It's the best.

Brick for cyber bullies

A brick for people who say nasty words about others online. It's really unfortunate that some people don't have the guts to tell a person how they feel about them or what they think about them face-to-face. It's really easy to hide behind a computer screen and say unkind words. Anyone that does that is a coward.

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DIABETES HOT TOPICS

Topics to help people self-manage their diabetes. Thurs. Feb. 5, 3-4pm. Diabetes and Heart Health: Mar. 5, 3-4pm. Keeping your Feet Healthy. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie. 1485 Garrison Road.

KEEPING DIABETES AWAY

Nutrition and lifestyle management strategies to help delay or prevent diabetes Feb. 24, Tues. Mar. 24, 1:30-3:30pm. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie. 1485 Garrison Road.

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WALKING GROUP

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A: This is an excellent question. When choosing a Power of Attorney or Estate Trustee, keep in mind that your chosen person can resign at any time, and not accept the position. Therefore, you should review your Will and Powers of Attorney from time to time to make sure that they are current. It is possible your friend has done this with you and had a replacement. In the event that she has not, and you were advised that you were the chosen person and called upon to act, you are free to renounce your right to do so. That would mean that the person who was named as the alternate would then be in a position to act.



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Fort Erie

Loss to the Falcons was 'heart breaking' for Meteors

Cathy McCabe
Special to The Times

Fort Erie Meteors assistant Coach Dave Keracher said the team's loss Saturday night against the St. Catharines Falcons was "heartbreaking."

The Meteors lost 4-2 with Fort Erie's Junior B

team attempting only 15 shots on goal compared to the Falcons' 26 shots.

Keracher said the team played exactly as practiced for the first two periods.

"We played our game for 40 minutes and then we decided not to play in the third period. Honestly, it was heartbreaking. We had

a good weekend going and it just fell apart the last 20 minutes of the game. We have to play 60 minutes."

Falcons' Tyler Morrison scored at 17:51 in the first period. Meteors' Riley Mocha scored his first goal of the season on a power play 42 seconds later.

The Pre-Novice Maple

Leafs and Canadians were in attendance and entertained the crowd with a 10-minute game during the first intermission.

Falcons' Ryan Doucette opened the scoring in the second period with a power-play goal at 9:02.

Making his debut with the Meteors, Vito Scaringi

scored a power-play goal at 10:34.

Keracher said he thought Scaringi, who also received an assist in the first period, played very well in his opening game.

"He fits in well. He helps our power play out and gives us a little fire power out front."

In the third period, Manny Manns gave the Falcons the lead at 12:22 and Brock Ackerman secured the win with an empty-net goal with 39

seconds left.

When asked about the decision to take out the goalie for the last minutes of play, Keracher said, "There are always pros and cons. It's a what-if. You can lose by two or you can tie it up."

He added, "It's one of those plays that I think is worthwhile. If it works, it works, if it doesn't, it doesn't."

The Fort Erie Meteors will host Ancaster on Saturday at 7:15 p.m.



CATHY MCCABE
Special to The Times

Falcons' Jake Evans makes an attempt on the Meteors' goal in the first period Saturday night at



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3. Organize work by reading, recording and routing correspondence, collecting information, ability to plan and organize workload and function effectively with very minimum supervision. Outstanding organizational skills and ability to maintain records and systems.
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9. Knowledge of non profit & social housing would be an asset.
10. Dependable (40 hr work week), trustworthy and able to work as a team player.

To apply, submit cover letter, resume and 2 current references (at least one work related), and submit in an envelope marked "Administrative Clerk" and confidential to:

ADMINISTRATOR

Ganawagh & Ohsto Urban Homes Inc.
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You may also drop off at the office in person.

We thank all applicants for their interest however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. DEADLINE will be February 6, 2015 at 4PM, nothing after this date will be accepted. Thank you



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All persons having claims against the Estate of Evelyn May Pirson, late of the Town of Fort Erie (Stevensville) in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 3rd day of October, 2011, are notified to send particulars to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of February, 2015, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to claims of which the undersigned has then had notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim the undersigned had not then had notice.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2015.

Robin Brian Pirson, Jc, Estate Trustee

by his solicitors

James Jamieson & Rockchip

388 Ridge Road

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Ridgeway, Ontario

L6S 1N0

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Coming Events

Coming Events

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Full lunch.

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Friday Feb. 13, 2015 4:30 to 7pm
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ALZHEIMER Society Niagara Region Support Groups for Care Partners meets first Thurs of each month (except July & Aug)
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In Memoriam

A tribute to those we loved and lost.



WINGER -

The family of the late **Ellie Winger** would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our family, friends, co-workers and acquaintances for their support, prayers, flowers and donations in Ellie's memory.

A special thank you to Dr. Scher and the staff of Palliative Care at Douglas Memorial for their compassionate and professional care. Thank you to Dr. Levesque and the staff at Walker Family Cancer Center for their wonderful care. Thanks to Brenner Funeral Chapel for their professional care.

An extra special thanks to Smoke and Ted for being there every day. We love you.

With love,
Tom, Kathy and Kerrie

Obituaries

CLAUS, Ralph Harvey - At Crescent Park Lodge on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 Survived by his wife Donna and daughter Carol. Predeceased by his parents Harvey and Edith Claus. At Ralph's request cremation has taken place and a private service and interment have been held. Donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905-894-0120.

DAWDY, Norma - Norma passed away unexpectedly on Sunday January 25th 2015 at the Greater Niagara General Hospital at the age of 86. Predeceased by her husband James and her son Terry and her husband Harold. Loving mother to sons Mark (Brian) and Craig and mother in law of Marilyn. She will be sadly missed by her loving grandchildren and great grandchildren. Cherished sister of Sylvia. Also survived by her large extended family and many friends. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. entrusted with private family arrangements. If so desired, donations to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

Obituaries

Obituaries

FEELY, Lillian - Lillian passed away at home on Monday, January 26th, 2015 at the age of 98. Predeceased by her first husband Tom Watson her second husband Floyd Feely and granddaughters Dianne Bosnak. Loving mother Shirley (Ron) Gore and Arlean (the Late George) Harriman. Cherished grandmother of Dean (Sharon), Kenny (Jennifer), Marty (Charlotte) and Darryl (Brenda) and Myles. Loving great-grandmother of Amy (Chris), Steven (Jessica), Valerie (Joel), Melanie (Roger) and Lindsay (Andy). Teanna, Cody, Marlene, James and great-great-grandmother of Elliott, Drew and Connor. Predeceased by her 7 siblings. Also survived by her large extended family. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Private family interment has taken place at St. John's Ridgeway Cemetery. If so desired, donations to Fort Erie Palliative Care would be appreciated by the family.

GALBRAITH, Thelma - On Sunday January 25th, 2015, Thelma suddenly passed away at the Welland Hospital in her 90th year. Predeceased by husband Jack (2005). Dear mother of Rod Gelbrith, cherished grandmother of Stacy (Eric) and Corrie (Bill). Predeceased by parents Daisy and Albert Thynel, sisters Violet and Betty and brother Harry. Cremation has taken place. A private graveside service will be held in Greenwood Cemetery at a later date. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. entrusted with private family arrangements.



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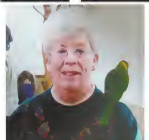
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KAYE, Joan Elizabeth (McCarthy) - With profound sadness the family announces the sudden peaceful passing of our sister at her home in Fort Erie on Thursday January 15, 2015 in her 67th year after a brief illness. She was predeceased by her parents Rose (Nezozon) and John McCarthy and brother Joe McCarthy (2012). Survived by her loving sister Kathy O'Connor (Jack), brother Jim McCarthy (Joanne) and sister in law Erika McCarthy (Joe). She will be missed by her nephews Michael Birdsell, Port St Lucie, Florida, Joe and Dan McCarthy, nieces Kathleen McCarthy and Novella Plovesan. Joan was a loving, kind and generous person who will be remembered by all the people whose lives she touched. Cremation has taken place and interment of her ashes will take place at Greenwood Cemetery at a later date. Expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice in Joan's honour.



WASI, Naz - Wasi passed away suddenly in Cambridge Massachusetts on January 15th, 2015 at the age of 75. Loving husband of Aurora. Proud father of Wassem. Wasi is survived by his brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins in Pakistan and the United Kingdom and extended family in the Philippines, USA and Canada. Wasi was employed for over 35 years with Pathoon (Custom Pharmaceuticals). An active and proud member of the Town of Fort Erie Wasi was involved with the Fort Erie Soccer Club, the Canadian Blood Services, Library Board, Multicultural Centre, the Hotel Dieu Hospital Board as well as many others. He served as the President of the Islamic Society of Niagara Peninsula and enjoyed sharing his enjoyment of Ham Radio Operations. Burial has taken place. The family invite you to share in a Memorial Service for Wasi on Saturday January 31st, 2015 at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church (310 Central Ave.) at 11 am. If so desired, donations to the Islamic Society of Niagara Peninsula or the Building Fund of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church would be appreciated by the family.



Oakley, Kathleen (nee Jones) passed away on January 23rd, 2015 at Greater Niagara Hospital at the age of 92. Predeceased by her husband Carl (1970). Survived by her good friend and adoptive daughter Nelson Smith. She is survived by her nieces & nephews in England - Jennifer Davies (Brian), Douglas Beard (Audrie), Maureen Woodward (Michael), Jennifer Harris (David), Diana Holman (Michael) and many great nieces & nephews, who faithfully kept in touch with her. She also has a niece & nephew Sandy & Roy Oakley in Canada. Her good memory and sense of humour made her unforgettable to her hairdresser, Rita, many friends and especially the Friday night supper gathering. Kathleen was born Sept 22, 1922 in Fort Slide, England, the youngest of 11 children. She was an English War Bride, marrying Carl on May 17, 1943. She was a Wren in the Women's Royal Naval Service. She worked at Irvine Air Canteen, before opening her own hairdressing business out of her home on Crescent Rd. She cared for her husband who was in poor health for many years. Kathleen was predeceased by her mother and father and her 10 siblings all in England. At Kathleen's request, cremation has taken place, entrusted to Niagara Funeral Alternatives Inc. Greeting at 1:00 on February 1st, 2015 at the Royal Canadian Legion, 190 Garrison Rd, Fort Erie, Legion services at 1:15 with Celebration of Life to follow.

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

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In Memoriams In Memoriams

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GLEN LORNE MCKINLEY
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Precious is your name,
Deep in our hearts,
You will always remain.
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Always loved and never forgotten.
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Clinton, Heather and Rodney

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• The sweet flavour of shrimp is mixed with smooth cream cheese and the crunchiness of deep-fried wonton wrappers

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9⁹⁹
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• Crispy on the outside, tender on the inside

10-16 PIECES
320 g/11.3 oz

12⁹⁹

Breaded Calamari Rings

• Tender and tasty, restaurant-style calamari rings dipped in a crispy coating

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9⁹⁹

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• These crispy-coated shrimp have had the tails removed, making them very "popable"!

300 g/10.6 oz

11⁹⁹

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3⁹⁹
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17-34 PIECES
680 g/1.5 lb

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CHICKEN FILLETS

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907 g/2 lb

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